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Nevertheless, Paragraph 6 of the Detention order relies heavily upon representations about made by a law enforcement agent to the Pretrial Services Officer in regard to defendant's HAMC membership. Defendant does not challenge the Court's right to consider his HAMC membership in its release calculation; however the information that was provided to the Court was inaccurate and incomplete.

Mr. Lyles was represented at the detention hearing by previous counsel, Anthony Brass. Undersigned counsel did not file his appearance until July 16, 2008 at a status conference before Magistrate Judge James, at which time the prosecution presented its initial discovery to undersigned counsel. It has produced considerably more information in the succeeding three weeks that was not available to previous counsel for presentation to the Court including:

- The search warrant application, affidavit and return of service, the contents of which negatively impact prosecution claims as to the likelihood of Mr. Lyles being convicted.
- The recorded statements made by Mr. Lyles to law enforcement officers at the time of his arrest on June 12, 2008, which were described by the prosecution in its cover letter to undersigned counsel as "post-arrest statements of the defendant", and referred to by the Court in its detention order, based upon government claims at the detention hearing, as "the fact that he [Mr. Lyles] confessed to the charges". [Detention Order, ¶ 2, at P. 2]. The actual statements by Mr. Lyles greatly detract from the government's claims as to the strength of its evidence.
- Two CDs containing photographs and videos of the Lyles residence taken on June 12, 2008 at the time of the search.
- Law enforcement reports in regard to Mr. Lyles arrest and the entry into and search of his residence.
- A detailed criminal history for Mr. Lyles, and a full opportunity to discuss it with other counsel.
- Information pertaining to Mr. Lyles' personal finances and background.
- Significant information related to the HAMC and defendant's role as a member.

Undersigned counsel has filed a lengthy declaration in support of the instant motion ("Caplan Declaration"), wherein he highlights relevant information gleaned from the discovery. He also presents new and highly relevant information and evidence to the Court in regard to defendant's participation and role in the HAMC as it impacts the issue of detention, based upon knowledge from 35 years of experience in defending members of the HAMC in 12 federal and 9 state courts throughout the United States. [Caplan Declaration, ¶¶ 15-16]. Such new facts are likely to greatly allay the concerns expressed by the Court in Paragraph 6 of its Detention Order.

Undersigned counsel has had the opportunity to carefully review and address the Court's specific concerns about Mr. Lyles' release as expressed in its detention order. Defendant respectfully asserts that many of the findings and conclusions in that order were based upon less than complete and, at times, affirmatively inaccurate information from the prosecution, including the following:

- That Mr. Lyles "has a strong incentive to flee", based upon a conclusion that Mr. Lyles "is likely to serve at least 10 years, which is buttressed by the strength of the government's case and the fact that he confessed to the charges." [Detention Order, P.2, ¶ 2].
- That defendant "also has the ability to flee". [Detention Order, P. 2, ¶ 3].
- That he admitted he owned a large marijuana growing facility and downsized it. [Detention Order, P. 2, ¶ 3].
- His financial history discloses that "he is living beyond his means" and "may have access to concealed funds to finance flight". [Detention Order, P. 2, ¶ 3].
- "Defendant's affinity for guns and violence"; the 6 firearms found at his home; mace, saps and brass knuckles; 8 bulletproof vests; and the reasons for keeping these weapons at his residence. [Detention Order, P.3, ¶ 5].
- That defendant's "five arrests, which resulted in 3 misdemeanor convictions, all involved weapons and assaultive behavior, including one conviction of obstructing or resisting an officer". [Detention Order, P. 3, ¶ 5].

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Defendant's role at Sergeant at Arms in the HAMC, and his wearing of an HAMC "Filthy Few" patch on his vest is indicative of a propensity for violence. [Detention Order, P.3, ¶ 6].

Mr. Lyles did not confess to the charges against him.

In its detention order, the Court accepted the government's claim that Mr. Lyles had confessed to the instant charges at the time of his arrest on June 12, 2008. As a result, it concluded that he was likely to be incarcerated for at least 10 years because each of Counts One and Two carried statutory mandatory minimum sentences of 5 years, with the requirement that a sentence imposed on the 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) violation be served consecutively.

However neither defendant's previous counsel nor the Court had access to the actual recorded statements of Mr. Lyles at the time of the initial detention hearing. Undersigned counsel has listened to the recordings on several occasions, including once with Mr. Lyles, and nas carefully memorialized the actual statements of Mr. Lyles and the interrogating agents. Caplan Declaration, ¶ 5].

The "confession" was actually a 33 minutes series of questions and answers between defendant and the arresting agents, wherein Mr. Lyles did not confess to committing any crime whatsoever. The officers began their interrogation by falsely stating that he was not yet under arrest, although when they made this statement they had previously located the marijuana "grow" and FBI agents had already placed him in handcuffs.

The officers then capitalized on Mr. Lyles' sincere belief that he was permitted to grow less than 100 marijuana plants under the medical marijuana laws of the State of California. They 24 old him that if he were in fact in compliance with California law, they would bring this

The details of this interrogation have been recounted at length in Paragraph 19 of the Caplan Declaration, and the recording will be available for the Court's consideration at any hearing on the instant motion.

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"favorable information" to the attention of the "Febes" (FBI agents). [Recorded Conversation, DS-400021, at 5:09 Minutes]².

Mr. Lyles never stated that he had successfully grown more than 100 plants at a time. Only 84 plants were found during the search. Therefore, the statutory mandatory minimum 5 year sentence under 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1) and (b)(1)(B), which requires seizure of more than 100 plants, is not likely to be applicable.

In response to agents' questions, he stated that his previous attempts to grow marijuana had largely been unsuccessful. The repetitiveness and confusion inherent in the agents' questions and Mr. Lyle's responses left their applicability to any mandatory minimum sentence highly problematical. [Recorded Conversation, DS-400021, at 5:45, 12:00, 13:30, 1422, 20:02 Minutes; [Recorded Conversation, DS-400024, at 1:27, 2:30, 4:19 Minutes].

Likewise, on three separate occasions the agents tried to get Mr. Lyles to agree that he possessed the firearms at his residence for the purpose of "protecting the grow". On each occasion, Mr. Lyles emphatically denied that they were possessed for this purpose.

Mr. Lyles was first asked: "Do you got these [firearms] for club [HAMC] business or just basically to watch your grow?" Mr. Lyles responded spontaneously: "No, this has nothing to do with my grow. This is my house man. You know. Everyone keeps a shotgun by the bed." [Recorded Conversation, DS-400023, at 1:29 Minutes].

After Mr. Lyles further explained that he merely possessed the weapons for home protection and as a collector, the agents sought to press the point: "Is it protection for the grow also?" Mr. Lyles again emphatically stated "No!". The agents tried a third time, asking: "Got any problems with the grow", and explaining that they just "were documenting how many people

All of the citations herein to specific times in the recordings are based upon undersigned counsel's statements in Paragraph 19 of the Caplan Declaration.

get ripped-off?" Again, Mr. Lyles replied "No". Recorded Conversation, DS-400023, at 2:25 Minutes].

Therefore, Mr. Lyles certainly did not admit any facts to support a charge that he possessed a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, and certainly did not "confess" to such a firearm offense. It should be noted that Mr. Lyles was not under any firearms disability at the time of the search, and all of the seized firearms were wholly "legal" for him to possess. Several of them were located in a locked gun safe (for which Mr. Lyles voluntarily surrendered the key), and the search warrant return, and law enforcement reports pertaining to the search disclose that none of the firearms were found within or in the immediate vicinity of the grow room.

There is a substantial likelihood that motions to suppress evidence from the search and to suppress Mr. Lyle's statements would be successful, thereby detracting from the prosecution's claims about the strength of its case.

Previous counsel did not have an opportunity to review the search warrant application, affidavit, and return, which were first unsealed on July 24, 2008, almost six weeks after the initial detention hearing herein. [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 7]. Undersigned counsel was able to do so, as well as to discuss these documents with Mr. Lyles.

It is the opinion of counsel that there are substantial grounds for suppression of all evidence seized or obtained during the June 12, 2008 search, which would require dismissal of the instant charges if successful. [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 22]. Motions to suppress evidence will be filed asserting that the search warrant affidavit is facially deficient; that it contains material misstatements and omissions of facts essential to a finding of probable cause; that the search warrant was overly broad; that the 29 member FBI Swat Team violated the explicit no-knock provision that this Court had inserted by hand into the search warrant by effecting their entry into

defendant's residence using "flash bangs" [flash grenades]; that numerous items of evidence were seized without authorization in the search warrant; and that the "good faith" doctrine would not apply to save this search, and that statements made by Mr. Lyles would likewise be excluded as "fruits" of the unlawful search and seizures.

Mr. Lyles was not living beyond his means, and had no funds with which to finance flight.

In its detention order, the Court found that Mr. Lyles "has the ability to flee . . . [having] traveled extensively throughout the United States and internationally." It also asserted that Mr. Lyles financial history disclosed that he was "living beyond his means", and therefore might have "access to concealed funds with which to finance his flight." [Detention order, P. 2, ¶ 3]. This conclusion was explicitly based in part upon inaccurate and incomplete information from the government that defendant had "confessed" to having operated a large marijuana growing facility that had since been downsized.

In fact, almost all of Mr. Lyles' domestic travel, and all of his international travel, was paid for by the HAMC, on behalf of which he undertook these trips. The HAMC either reimbursed him for his travel expenses, or paid for them directly in the first instance. [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 24, P. 8]. I have attached hereto as "Exhibit X", with bank account numbers redacted, receipts for Mr. Lyles' South Africa trip showing such third party payment. Therefore such travel did not indicate that he was living beyond his means.

The Court's concern that Mr. Lyles might have hidden funds from his previous operation of a "large marijuana growing facility" was based upon the prosecution's claim that Mr. Lyles had confessed to previous large marijuana harvests. In fact, Mr. Lyles told the agents: "I didn't get shit out of fucking 2-3 harvests". [Recorded Conversation, DS-400021, at 5:55 Minutes]. "I

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haven't had a good harvest in so long. Most I've ever gotten out of here is 5-6 pounds." [Recorded Conversation, DS-400021, at 12:00 Minutes]. [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 24].

Conjecture that Mr. Lyles may have concealed funds with which to flee is further belied by a colloquy with the agents in response to their question about the location of his motorcycle. He told them that it was stored at a friend's house because his driver's license had been suspended for non-payment of fines. [Recorded Conversation, DS-400021, at 17:08 Minutes].

In response to the agents' inquiry about why he didn't just pay them, Mr. Lyles explained that he owed Mendocino County "a couple of grand" and "several hundred to Sonoma County", and that he was overdrawn on his bank account. He also told them that he operated a silkscreen T-shirt business and was trying to get a tanning salon going. [Recorded Conversation, DS-400021, at 17:25 Minutes].

All firearms seized from Mr. Lyles' home on June 12, 2008, were lawful for him to possess, and he maintained and stored them safely. Likewise, none of the charges that defendant had engaged in "assaultive behavior" involved allegations that a dangerous weapon of any kind had been used, displayed or brandished.

In its detention order, the Court stated that all of the weapons, including the firearms that were seized at Mr. Lyles' home during the search, and the facts that defendant's previous arrests had "all involved weapons or assaultive behavior" were a source of concern, in that it suggested that defendant had an "affinity for guns and violence". The following information may ameliorate the Court's uneasiness. [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 27].

Mr. Lyles is not a felon, and was under no federal or state firearms disability at the time 24 of the search and seizure. All of the firearms seized during the search were "legal" in that none had improperly modified or altered, or was inherently unlawful to be possessed by him (e.g. fully automatic).

Mr. Lyles had been instructed on the safe use and storage of firearms from the time he was a young boy. For example, a number of the firearms seized at his home were kept in a locked gun safe, and Mr. Lyles voluntarily surrendered the key to that safe to law enforcement agents during the search. [Recorded Conversation, DS-400021, at 7:29 Minutes].

In the same vein, Mr. Lyles' misdemeanor arrest on October 31, 2007 for CCW in a vehicle was dismissed because the weapon was an *unloaded pistol*, registered to Mr. Lyles, which had been placed inside of a *locked gun bag*, which in turn had been *placed in the trunk of the vehicle* that Mr. Lyles was driving. Thus Mr. Lyles committed no firearm violation on that occasion, but instead had fully complied with proper gun handling procedures.

Similarly, defendant's first arrest in San Jose in 2003 for carrying a concealed firearm in a vehicle and in a public place was completely dismissed. There was no allegation in that case that the firearm in question was in any way altered, stolen, or otherwise per se unlawful for him to possess.

His Placerville arrest on July 3, 2003 for obstructing and impeding a police officer contained no allegation that he actually struck the officer or in any way employed or threatened him with a weapon. The incident occurred at closing time at a bar, and Mr. Lyles, then age 23, was admittedly drunk and acted inappropriately. He accepted responsibility for his actions by pleading guilty, and receiving a 10 day jail sentence and 24 months probation. He was not charged with any violation of that probation.

Likewise, the case in which Mr. Lyles pled guilty to challenge to fight in a public place in Willets on September 1, 2005, did not involve any allegation that weapons were possessed, used or displayed. It is also important to note that the three charges against Mr. Lyles for assaultive behavior all involved excessive use of alcohol, and the most recent of them occurred 3 years ago,

when he was under the age of 25. He is now almost 28, and has clearly learned to act more responsibly in public.

It should also be noted that the law enforcement officers were willing to remove the handcuffs from Mr. Lyles while they conducted their interrogation and search on June 12, 2008, after accepting Mr. Lyles' promise that he would not create any problems if they did so.

Mr. Lyles was unrestrained for the remainder of the recorded conversation. [Recorded Conversation, DS-400021, at 1:31 – 2:30 Minutes]. [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 28].

Other non-firearm weapons seized at defendant's home were openly displayed on the fireplace mantle as a part of weapons collection, and there was no evidence that any of them had ever been actively used by Mr. Lyles.

The Court also noted the non-firearms weapons seized during the search of defendant's residence, specifically a mace, saps and brass knuckles. Mr. Lyles was brought by the agents, uncuffed, into the direct proximity of these weapons, all of which were found openly displayed on the fireplace mantle.

In response to questions from the interrogating agents, Mr. Lyles explained that he had collected weapons for an arms' display he was creating, and elicited no negative response from the agents. Mr. Lyles was told to "Step by the fireplace. There's brass knuckles, a leather sapper and a club with nails." Mr. Lyles responded that he "collected all that stuff for years."

He was then asked if there were any more weapons like that at the house, and Mr. Lyles truthfully replied: "No." [Recorded Conversation, DS-400022, at 0:15 Minutes]. Defendant explained that he "just picked all this stuff up – trying to get a little display going on." [Recorded Conversation, DS-400023, at 1:02 Minutes].

One of the agents, apparently understanding this purpose, responded in a teasing manner: "Troy's mantle is a little nicer than yours." Mr. Lyles replied: "Is it?" The officer then rejoined:

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"He's got a whole room." The officer was referring to the weapons display of another member of Mr. Lyles' HAMC Chapter he had viewed during another search. [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 29].

The bulletproof vests seized from defendant's residence were purchased from army surplus 5 years previously, had never been used and were too small to be used by Mr. Lyles or by others in his HAMC charter.

The Court also found "most troubling, [that] 8 bulletproof vests were found" during the search of defendant's home. [Detention order, P.3, ¶ 5]. In fact, these vests were size "medium", too small to be worn by Mr. Lyles, or anyone else his size or larger. This would linelude most of his friends, including fellow members of his HAMC chapter. They certainly were not unlawful for him to possess at the time of their seizure, nor was there any evidence that they had ever been or even could be worn or utilized by Mr. Lyles or anyone else.

The agent asked Mr. Lyles: "What's up with the vests?" Mr. Lyles responded: I stumbled across those. I've been lugging them around since I had my [motorcycle] shop - 5 years – 4-5 years. They're all mediums. I came across those in [unintelligible] Solano."

The agent then asked defendant: "What for?" Mr. Lyles replied: "For whatever. It's not 17 lillegal. You can't do anything with them. I don't even fit into one of them, so I just stuck them down here in the garage. I collect shit like that – army surplus." [Recorded Conversation, DS-400024, at 3:31 Minutes]. [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 34].

> Mr. Lyles service as a Sergeant at Arms in his HAMC chapter, and his wearing of an HAMC "Filthy Few" patch, is not indicative of a propensity for violence.

The final area of concern expressed by the Court in its detention order related to Mr. Lyles membership in the HAMC. It gave credence to unsupported hearsay statements from an FBI Special Agent" to the Pretrial Services Officer that defendant is "believed to be a Sargeant (sic) at arms within the Hell's (sic) Angels Club, responsible for enforcing its orders

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that he is prepared to commit murder on behalf of the club." [Detention Order, P. 3, \P 6]. Again it is emphasized that Mr. Lyles is not charged with any offense involving the HAMC. He is not alleged to have conspired with anyone in or outside the HAMC in committing

the crimes alleged herein. Nevertheless, defendant understands that under the Bail Reform Act,

land rules", and is also "believed to be a member of the 'filthy few' which, it is alleged, indicates

the Court may consider any evidence it deems relevant to the release decision.

Although there is no evidence that Mr. Lyles was the Sergeant at Arms of the Sonoma HAMC chapter at the time of his arrest, he has admittedly fulfilled that function at various times during the course of his membership. The Sergeant at Arms in an HAMC chapter is indeed responsible for maintaining order at meetings and ensuring, on a day-to-day basis that the members comply with chapter and HAMC rules, including serving as "road captain" to maintain safety during runs. However this is not a post that is given as a matter of course to the strongest or "toughest" member of the group. [Caplan Declaration, ¶¶ 14-16, and 36].

Mr. Lyles is smaller in stature than many of the other Sonoma HAMC members, some of 17 whom are also accomplished in martial arts. The role of the Sergeant at Arms is to utilize negotiation and diplomacy for the very purpose of avoiding internal conflict between members. There is nothing about that function that should cause the Court concern if Mr. Lyles were to be eleased on conditions.

Undersigned counsel has also heard the false allegation about the "Filthy Few" being murderers for more than 30 years. In 1979 deceased Oakland HAMC member Albert Perryman (a former client) explained to undersigned counsel the group began in the late 1960s when the Northern California HAMC members went on an annual Summer "run" to Bass Lake. Mr. Perryman claimed to be a "charter member" of the "Filthy Few", who received that

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1 appellation because they were the first to arrive, the last to depart, and were acknowledged to be the "heaviest partyers". [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 36, P. 15].

At some point in time, the story about the Filthy Few being "murderers" for the HAMC began to circulate among law-enforcement agencies. However former HAMC members who have become *cooperating prosecution witnesses* have no motivation to testify falsely on the subject because of their grants of extensive immunity, have wholly discredited this theory.

In the Caplan Declaration, Paragraphs 36-39 at pages 15-18, there are detailed transcript references to statements and testimony that support defendant's assertions that follow herein. Patrick Matter, a 25 year HAMC member and former president of the Minnesota Chapter of the Hells Angels began cooperating with the government in 2004. Mr. Matter was a prosecution witness in two federal criminal cases in the District of Minnesota, wherein he testified under oath about the "filthy few".

In the trial of United States v. Jacobsen and Seydel, CMr. Matter admitted on cross-examination that he had "obtained a badge called the Filthy Few". Matter was then asked "Isn't it true that the badge Filthy Few before '95 was a badge you earned by killing somebody?" Mr. Matter answered: "No, it's not true." Matter was then asked: "Was the badge given to members who killed people?" Mr. Matter responded: "I don't know that for a fact", but admitted he had heard "rumors" to that effect.

Matter further testified that he and defendant Seydel, an active HAMC member, "decided that we should have a Filthy few patch and sent in for them." Counsel asked: "You just put one bn? And Mr. Matter replied: "Yes, we did."

After the first trial against Jacobsen and Seydel ended with a deadlocked jury, Mr. Matter testified again for the prosecution on January 27, 2005. When asked: "Tell the jury what a Filthy

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Few patch is?" Matter replied: "It could mean anything. It could mean you rode to Sturgis for the club [HAMC]. It could mean anything." Matter further testified that he wore a Filthy Few patch for one year in 1994 for "Prestige or to look good in the club."

When challenged: "Isn't it true that you represented to the club that you murdered somebody to get that Filthy Few patch? He again responded: "No, that's not true". He was then Asked: "Isn't it true in the early 90s and late 80s, when somebody wore a filthy few patch it meant they had committed a murder?" Matter replied: "That's what people would say at times, but it is not true".

Matter was also queried: "Isn't that what the Hells Angels represented to the public? That if somebody walked around with a Filthy Few patch they had murdered somebody?" He responded "Not to my knowledge." [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 36, P. 15-16].

Paragraph 36 of the Caplan Declaration also provides details of information about the 'Filthy few" from another prosecution cooperating witness. Michael Kramer, a former HAMC member and club officer from Arizona and Illinois, cooperated closely with the ATF and DEA in investigations of criminal conduct within the Arizona HAMC and with respect to events in California, Nevada and Illinois. He was made available to Police Officers from the Netherlands as a credible witness with truthful information about the HAMC, and in 2004 was interviewed by Dutch police in the company of ATF Agents.

Kramer was asked during a transcribed interview with an ATF agent and Dutch police officers: "What kind of a meaning does the Filthy Few patch have?" Kramer replied: "The briginal meaning was that the Filthy Few were the ones that stayed at parties longer than anyone It should be emphasized Kramer, with whom undersigned counsel had never met or

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spoken, echoed exactly the information that his client Albert "Big Albert" Perryman had conveyed to him 25 years previously.

Kramer further explained that it was "more a thing to frighten guys like you, police officers, etc. It doesn't mean you have killed someone for the club." He explained that "If you knew how many Filthy Few patches there are, there would be far more unsolved murders. ... Filthy few is just a joke and a myth. It's just that 'Joe Public' would fear the Hells Angel member wearing a Filthy Few patch."

Kramer also mentioned that "At the West Coast [meetings] Fooky from the Oakland charter is the one who makes the patches and hands them out to his friends. I don't think there's a difference between the meaning of Filthy few in Europe and the U.S. As far as I know the Filthy Few patches come from Oakland. Fooky is the only one who who makes them over here and gives them out. He is an old member (20-30 years). Fooky could have given me 10 of them and I could have distributed them." [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 36, P. 16].

As noted in the Caplan Declaration, ¶¶ 37-38, the person referred to as "Fooky", is an 17 HAMC member from Oakland named John Fukushima, who to the personal knowledge of undersigned counsel is often referred to by the nickname "Fuki".

In May 2007, Mr. Fukushima testified as a defense witness at trial in *United States v*. Fabel, et al., in the Western District of Washington, wherein he provided details of making and delivering various HAMC insignia, including "Filthy Few" patches. A copy of the transcript of his testimony is attached as Exhibit F to the Caplan Declaration.

Mr. Fukushima explained that he was 54 years old, had worked as an automotive technician for 36 years, and had been an HAMC member for 30 years. [RT, P. 7051].

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Fukushima testified that had been involved in the creation and sale of HAMC patches for about 28 years, in a voluntary, not for profit endeavor. He would receive requests for various types of HAMC patches, and after determining the type, color, size and numbers, he would submit an order to one of several embroiderers who would fabricate them. Included in this category were the "death-head" insignia and "rockers" for the back of HAMC vests, "city tags" for the front, and what he termed "shock value tags". [RT, P. 7052-7053].

Mr. Fukushima explained that "shock value" tags had different sayings on them such as "Dirty 30", Terror Team", "Hell on Wheels", "Wrecking Crew", "Bastard Brigade", "Frozen Few" and "Filthy Few". He said he had made thousands of them over the years, sometimes 25 to 100 in a single order. He also identified a copy of receipts for an order of 100 "Filthy Few" Tags and 500 "Red and White" [HAMC colors] supporter tags. A copy of these receipts was attached to the Caplan Declaration as "Exhibit G". [RT, P. 7054-7055].³

Mr. Fukushima also testified that he is no longer the only person who makes these tags for the HAMC, and that any HAMC member who called him and asked, would be sent the requested tag, including the one bearing the legend "Filthy Few". [RT, P. 7060-7061]. Therefore, based upon the foregoing information and evidence, the Court may safely conclude that Mr. Lyle's wearing of a "Filthy Few" patch on his vest is not a statement or boast about murder, contrary to law enforcement misinformation on the issue.

Undersigned counsel also recounted his awareness that, consistent with the reality that the Filthy Few were the 'heaviest partyers', that "Frozen Few" patches are often worn by HAMC members who have attended an annual motorcycle run and party in Alaska. [Caplan Declaration, ¶ 38, P. 18.]

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Additional information about HAMC members' compliance with conditions when granted pretrial release in federal prosecutions.

Undersigned counsel has had extensive personal experience and knowledge with respect to the pretrial release of HAMC members in federal court over the past 35 years. Although clearly not conclusive, it may be considered by the Court in its release determination.

In his declaration, undersigned counsel detailed his experience in *United States v. Acosta, et. al.*, Case No; 03-542, before the Honorable James Mahan in the United States District Court for the district of Nevada. [Caplan Declaration, ¶¶ 40-45, P. 18-20]. His client was one of 42 defendants charged with Conspiracy, Violence in Aid of Racketeering (including an allegation that they did so to maintain or enhance their standing in the HAMC), and related firearm charges.

The case arose from a shootout on the floor of Harrah's Casino in Laughlin, Nevada on April 27, 2002, in which 3 people were killed and others were wounded. All 42 defendants were HAMC members, or closely affiliated with HAMC members, and 40 resided outside of Las Vegas, Reno, Seattle, Washington, Alaska, and various California cities ranging from Sonoma (in the north) to San Diego (south).

Notwithstanding the charges of Violent Crimes in aid of Racketeering (in which the HAMC was the alleged "enterprise"), and the prosecution's initial requests that they be detained, Judge Mahan ordered the release of *all but one of the defendants on signature bonds*, with travel limited only to the entirety of their respective states of residence, but permitting travel to Nevada as well. Judge Mahan also refused the government's request that they be prohibited from associating with co-defendants and with other HAMC members.

The first 12 of the 42 defendants began September 2006, and after approximately 2 weeks of jury trial, the case ended with 6 defendants pleading guilty to an "enterprise

conspiracy" *not* the HAMC. Sentences for the five of six ranged from 1-3 years, one was sentenced to 5 years, concurrent with a previously imposed sentence. The cases against the remaining 36 defendants were all *dismissed with prejudice*."

Of note is the fact that during the almost 3 years that the case was pending, not one of the defendants, all of whom were affiliated in some way with the HAMC, had his pretrial release revoked due to any act of violence. Likewise, after 35 years of experience in handling HAMC-related cases, not one of undersigned counsel's clients who had been granted pretrial in state or federal court had his bond revoked for any reason whatsoever.

II. LAW AND ARGUMENT

A. Pertinent Law on Pretrial Release.

The leading case in this Circuit construing the Bail Reform Act of 1984 is *United States v.*Motamedi, 767 F.2d 1403 (9th Cir. 1985). Every principle regarding pretrial release jurisprudence that was established in that case by Judge (as he then was) Kennedy's opinion has been unvaryingly followed to the present time.

The district court had ordered Motamedi, a citizen of Iran with an American "green card" to be detained as a flight risk. Initially released upon conditions, he was detained as a flight risk after voluntarily appearing for arraignment on a 15 count superseding indictment charging him with a "§371 conspiracy" and 14 substantive counts for unlicensed exportation or weapons, subjecting him to a term of imprisonment of up to 33 years.⁴

The district court upheld the magistrate's ruling that Motamedi posed a serious risk of flight because: he was acting as a *de facto* arms purchasing agent for the Iranian government; he had maintained large foreign bank accounts; and he had persisted in his export activities, Motamedi's charges antedated the Sentencing Reform Act, and he was therefore facing an "Old Law" sentence.

Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support of Defendant Lyles Motion to Reconsider Detention Order, Page 18

notwithstanding warnings from the U.S. Customs Service and FBI that it was illegal to export the items at issue. *Id.* at 1404-1405. The Court noted that there were certain "traditional" principles that must be followed in all cases that implemented the Bail Reform Act of 1984, (18 U.S.C. § 3141, et. seq.). Among these were:

• Release is the norm in non-capital cases.

A person arrested for a non-capital offense shall ordinarily be admitted to bail, and only in rare circumstances should release be denied. *Id.* at 1405; *United States v. Townsend*, 897 F.2d 989, 994 (9th Cir. 1990); *United States v. Gebro*, 948 F.2d 1118, 1121 (9th Cir. 1991).

Defendant Lyles respectfully submits that this prosecution is not such a "rare" case. It does not involve a conspiracy; it does not involve violence; it does not involve a protracted period of criminality; it does not involve large quantities of "hard" drugs; it does not involve interstate or international activities; it does not involve large quantities of money or other property. In the realm of federal criminal cases, it is about as "ordinary" as is possible: possession of less than 10 kilograms of marijuana, with allegations that defendant merely possessed (but did not brandish or fire) firearms in connection therewith.

• Doubts should be resolved in favor of defendant's release.

"Doubts regarding the propriety of release should be resolved in favor of the defendant."

United States v. Motamedi, 767 F.2d at 1404-1405; United States v. Townsend, 897 F.2d at 884;

Gebro, 948 F.2d at 1121; United States v. Chen, 820 F. Supp. 1205, 1209 (N.D. Cal. 1992);

United States v. Ward, 63 F. Supp.2d 1203, 1210 (C.D. Cal. 1999).

It is believed that the Court was seriously considering release at the initial detention hearing. Defendant has now provided the Court with considerable additional information

These principles have invariably been followed by decisions in this Circuit up to the present time.

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pertaining to release that directly address concerns expressed in its detention order. He respectfully suggests that these additional, favorable facts and interpretations should cause any lingering doubts to be resolved in favor of his release on conditions pending trial.

• Weight of the evidence is the *least* important of the release factors.

The Court in *Motamedi* also emphasized that a well-established principle from previous bail jurisprudence, that the weight of the evidence is the least important factor in the release decision, also applied under the Bail Reform Act. *Motamedi*, 767 F.2d at 1408. The Court emphasized: "Although the statute permits the Court to consider the nature of the offense and the weight of the evidence [18 U.S.C. §§ 3142(g)(1) and (2)], the statute neither requires nor permits a pretrial determination that the person is guilty." *Id.* Accord, *United States v. Gebro*, 948 F.2d 1118, 1121 (9th Cir. 1991); *United States v. Winsor*, 785 F.2d 755, 757 (9th Cir. 1986); *United States v. Cardenas*, 784 F.2d 937, 939 (9th Cir. 1986); *United States v. Chen*, *supra*, 820 F. Supp. at 1207.

As Judge Walker noted in *Chen*: the weight of the evidence is the *least* important factor only if, as in Mr. Lyle's situation, "the weight of the evidence is used to buttress a decision to detain the defendant. If the evidence against a defendant is weak, that becomes an important factor favoring release." *Id.*

Therefore, based upon information from the new discovery (especially the exact words spoken by Mr. Lyles during his interrogation by law enforcement), and the content of the search documents provided to defendant *after* the initial detention hearing on June 17, 2008, the likelihood of his conviction is considerably less than claimed by the prosecution. Thus the prosecution's weakened case should affirmatively support pretrial release on conditions.

"Reasonably assure" does not require a guarantee or total certainty.

The standard "reasonably assure" the defendant's appearance and the safety of any other person and the community, as used in the Bail Reform Act, does not require a "guarantee" or total certainty. *United States v. Orta*, 760 F.2d 887, 891-892 (8th Cir. 1985); *United States v. Fortna*, 769 F.2d 243, 250 (5th Cir. 1985). Judge Walker also addressed this matter in *Chen*, *supra*, 820 F. Supp. 1205, 1208, noting that "Section 3142 does not seek ironclad guarantees".

In the case at bar, although Mr. Lyles is subject to the rebuttable presumptions of flight and dangerousness of 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e) and §3142(f)(1)(c), he has proffered substantial evidence to rebut that presumption. Therefore, the prosecution now bears the evidentiary of demonstrating, by clear and convincing evidence, that detention is required.

Admittedly, that presumption has not disappeared. However it remains merely one of the factors against release to be weighed along with other evidence relevant to the factors set forth in § 3142(g). *United States v. Hir*, 517 F.3d 1081 (9th Cir. 2008); *United States v. Dominguez*, 783 F.2d 702, 707 (7th Cir. 1986).

Therefore, at this juncture, the Court should reconsider the statutory factors set forth in §3142(g) in the context of all of the evidence on the issue of detention. Included in this calculation must be the substantial new matters raised in the instant Motion to Reconsider the Detention Order, the accompanying exhibits and declarations, as well as such additional evidence and argument as this Court shall receive at any hearing on the instant motion.

II. CONCLUSION.

Defendant believes that he has given the Court ample reasons to reconsider and revoke the present detention order. He asserts that the rare imposition of pretrial detention cannot be justified under the circumstances of this prosecution, and Mr. Lyles' personal background. 1 | 2 | h 3 | a 4 | f 6 | 5 | b 6 | 7 | 8 | s 6 | 9 | 10 | h

While the Court may legitimately consider all evidence relevant to the release decision, he respectfully suggests that in its detention order the Court placed too much weight on firearms and other weapons at Mr. Lyle's home. The constitutional right to possess wholly legal firearms for persons who, like Mr. Lyles, were not under any statutory disability, was recently reaffirmed by the United States Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 128 S. Ct. 2783; 171 L. Ed. 2d 637 (2008). While many Americans choose not do so, either on personal principle or for safety concerns, a contrary choice is neither unlawful nor immoral in a legal context.

Likewise, although collecting and displaying weapons may not be everyone's choice of hobby, it is respectfully suggested that it was neither illegal, abnormal, nor morally wrong for Mr. Lyles to choose to do so. Equally important is that the Court's concern in regard to defendant's possession of these weapons can easily be addressed by the standard condition of release that prohibits possession of firearms and other dangerous weapons.⁶

In conclusion, defendant asks that after a hearing, and based upon all of the evidence and applicable legal principles, he should be granted pretrial release on conditions.

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Dated: August 16, 2008.

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Respectfully submitted:

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/s/<u>Alan P. Caplan</u> 630 Carolina Street San Francisco, CA 94107

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Phone: 826-2371 Fax: 824-7148

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E-Mail: apc716@pacbell.net

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Again it is noted that Mr. Lyles has never been accused of assaulting anyone with a firearm or any other weapon.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on August 16, 2008, I caused to be electronically filed under seal my General Appearance as Counsel for Defendant Russell Lyles, Jr. with the Clerk of this Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to AUSA Wai Shun Wilson Leung.

Dated: August 16, 2008.

s/ Alan P. Caplan

Alan P. Caplan 630 Carolina Street

San Francisco, CA 94107

Phone: 826-2371 Fax: 824-7148

E-Mail: apc716@pacbell.net

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EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)

Plaintiff(s),

No. 3-08-70351 MAG

RUSSELL A. LYLES JR.,

v.

Defendant(s).

DETENTION ORDER

On June 17, 2008 I heard the government's motion to detain Mr. Lyles. Assistant United States Attorney Wilson Leung appeared for the government. The defendant was present with his counsel, Tony Brass.

Having considered the parties' proffers, and the pretrial services report which recommended detention, I find that the government has met its burden of showing by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant presents a risk of flight and by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant presents a danger to the community. I also find that defendant has proposed conditions of release which would reasonably assure that he would make his appearances but there are not

conditions of release that would reasonably assure the safety

of the community. Some of the factors which I considered in

reaching this decision follow:

- 1. Defendant faces a maximum of life imprisonment and two consecutive mandatory minimum 5 year terms of imprisonment, given the seriousness of the charges. This creates a rebuttable presumption that "no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure appearance of the person and safety of the community." 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e).
- 2. He is likely to serve at least 10 years, which is buttressed by the strength of the government's case and the fact that he confessed to the charges. Defendant did not dispute the government's proffer that he is not eligible for a safety valve because of his criminal history and the weapons charges. He therefore has a strong incentive to flee.
- 3. Defendant also has the ability to flee. He has traveled extensively throughout the United States and internationally. In his confession, he admitted that he owned the large marijuana growing facility found at his residence and that he had downsized it. That, coupled with the fact that his financial history discloses that he is living beyond his means, suggests that he may have access to concealed funds with which to finance flight.
- 4. At the same time, he does have substantial ties to the community. His parents were present in court to support him, as were a number of friends. He has a fairly stable residential and employment history, though it is not clear how successful his clothing store is. Defendant proffered that a

friend, Stephen Wilson, would be willing to post his home in Redwood Valley as security for a bond. Mr. Wilson was present, confirmed this proffer and estimated his equity at \$450,000. Defendant also proffered that his parents would cosign the bond. I am satisfied that a half million dollar bond secured by the signatures of his parents and Mr. Wilson's property, together with other appropriate conditions which would include electronic monitoring, would adequately assure that the defendant made his appearances.

- 5. Of greater concern is the defendant's affinity for guns and violence. His five arrests, which resulted in 3 misdemeanor convictions, all involved weapons and assaultive behavior, including one conviction of obstructing or resisting an officer. The search accompanying the arrest found 6 firearms at his house, 3 shotguns, 2 rifles and a pistol, some of which were loaded, substantial quantities of ammunition, including a magazine for an AR15 rifle (but no rifle), a mace, saps and brass knuckles. Most troubling, 8 bulletproof vests were found. I do not accept defendant's rejoinder that he needs all of these weapons because there are bears in Willets or because he lives in a rural environment.
- 6. In addition, the pretrial services report contains information from an FBI Special Agent that defendant is believed to be a Sargeant at Arms within the Hell's Angels Club, responsible for enforcing its orders and rules, and that he is believed to be a member of the "filthy few" which, it is alleged, indicates that he is prepared to commit murder on behalf of the club.

Finally, I can think of no conditions of release that

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would reasonably assure the safety of the community, given defendant's affinity for violence and weapons. I am troubled by the fact that he has committed several offenses while on probation for prior offenses, which suggests that he is unlikely to abide by any conditions of release that I would impose to help assure the safety of the community.

Based on the foregoing, the government's motion to detain

Based on the foregoing, the government's motion to detain is **GRANTED**. **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that:

- (1) The defendant be, and hereby is, committed to the custody of the Attorney General for confinement in a corrections facility separate, to the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal;
- (2) The defendant be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with his counsel; and
- (3) On order of a court of the United States or on request of an attorney for the government, the person in charge of the corrections facility in which the defendant is confined shall deliver the defendant to an authorized Deputy United States Marshal for the purpose of any appearance in connection with a court proceeding.

Dated: June 17, 2008

Bernard Limmerman
United States Magistrate Judge

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EXHIBIT B

your trip reservation

Booking reservation number: YCP394

• We recommend you make a note of the booking reservation number or print this page.

traveller information

Russel Lyles

Steven Wilson

Contact information

Home phone:

SF07075264556

Business phone: *****PLEASE CHARGE (3375.04) AMOUNT TO THE CREDIT

e-ticket numbers

Only e-ticket numbers are displayed when they are issued. Paper ticket numbers are not included in the display.

Document 016-7224286888: San Francisco - San Francisco Russel Lyles Document 016-7224286889: San Francisco - San Francisco Steven Wilson Document 016-2173739782: San Francisco - Cape Town Russel Lyles Document 016-2173739783: San Francisco - Cape Town Steven Wilson

your flight selection

Airline confirmation number(s): United Airlines QLWSP2 South African Airways YCP394

San Francisco to Frankfurt

Flight 1

Tuesday, April 01, 2008

confirmed

Departure: 18:56

San Francisco, USA - San Francisco

International, terminal I

Arrival: 15:00 +1 day(s) Frankfurt, Germany - Frankfurt International,

terminal 1

Airline:

United Airlines UA926

Dutation:

11:04

Fare type: Economy Restricted

Aircraft:

Boeing 777-200/300

Baggage: information not available

Last check in: Information not available

DINNER, BREAKFAST

San Francisco to London

Flight 1

Wednesday, April 02, 2008

confirmed

Departure: 16:50

San Francisco, USA - San Francisco

International, terminal I

Arrival:

11:00 + 1 day(s)

London, United Kingdom - Heathrow, terminal

Airline:

British Airways BA284

Duration:

10:10

Fare type: Business

Aircraft:

Boeing 747-400

MEAL (NON SPECIFIC)

Last check in: information not available

London to Cape Town

Flight 1

Thursday, April 03, 2008

confirmed

Departure: 19:20

London, United Kingdom -

Heathrow, terminal

Arrival:

07:50 + 1 day(s)

Cape Town, South Africa -

Cape Town

International

Airline:

British Airways BA059

Duration:

11:30

Fare type: Business

Aircraft;

Boeing 747-400

MEAL (NON SPECIFIC)

Last check in: information not available

12:20

600

Cape Town to San Francisco

Flight 1

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

confirmed

Departure: 19:00

Cape Town, South Africa -

Cape Town

International

Arrival:

06:20 + 1 day(s)

London, United Kingdom -

Heathrow, terminal

Airline: Fare type: South African Airways SA220 Duration:

Aircraft:

Airbus Industrie A340-

Daggage:

20 kilogram(s) per traveller

Last check in: Information not available

DINNER, BREAKFAST

Economy

Change of plane required. Time between flights = 3:45

Flight 2 confirmed Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Departure: 10:05 London, United Kingdom - Heathrow, terminal 1

Arrival: 13:09 San Francisco, USA -

San Francisco International, terminal I

Airline:

United Airlines UA955

Duration: 11:04

Economy Restricted Fare type:

Boeing 747-400 Aircraft:

information not available Baggage:

tast check in: information not available

LUNCH, SNACK OR BRUNCH

Flight payment

Air Fare not Available

Flight Notes

- Not all seat and meal options are offered on all flights.
- Specific rules and restrictions may apply to this fare.
- Taxes are included except where local airport taxes are collected at check-in time.

Flight special requests

Travellor

Seal number

Seat location

Meal preference

Meal and seat request:

San Francisco - Frankfurt Flight 1: San Francisco - Frankfurt

Russel Lyles

42F

None specified

No special meal

Steven Wilson

42G

None specified

No special meal

San Francisco - London

Flight 1: San Francisco - London	Russel Lyles	None specified	None specified	No special meal
	Steven Wilson	None specified	None specified	No special meal
London - Cape Town				
Flight 1: London - Cape Town	Russel Lyles	None specified	None specified	No special meal
	Steven Wilson	None specified	None specified	No special meal
Cape Town - San Francisco				
Flight 1: Cape Town - London	Russel Lyles	None specified	None specified	No special meal
	Steven Wilson	None specified	None specified	No special meal
Flight 2: London - San Francisco	Russel Lyles	None specified	None specified	No special meal
	Steven Wilson	None specified	None specified	No special meal
Meet and assist travellors with special needs:	None specified			

Indicates airline has confirmed your seat or meal requests. If it has not been confirmed within 24 hours, you may want to contact the airline directly.

miscellaneous

WAS (Washington, District of Columbia, USA)

Tuesday, October 21, 2008

Wheelchairs needed:

destination information

Frankfurt, Germany

Current weather

Partly Cloudy High: 22 °C Low: 18 °C 5-day forecast

London, United Kingdom

Current weather

Partly Cloudy High: 16 °C Low: 15 °C 5-day forecast

Cape Town, South Africa

Current weather

Sunny High: 20 °C Low: 8 °C 5-day forecast

San Francisco, USA

Current weather

Partly Cloudy High: 19 °C Low: 12 °C

5-day forecast

general remarks

*** YOUR CREDIT CARD MAY SHOW ONE OR MORE CHARGES
*** WITH A TOTAL PRICE OF \$3375.04 ***
CALL AIRLINE 72HRS PRIOR DEPARTURE TO RECONFIRM SC
******* NO SHOW NO MONEY ******

*TOTAL AMOUNT CHARGED FOR ALL TICKETS IS \$3375.04 ST THIS IS ELECTRONIC TICKET

reservation office

WTC 5815 SEMINARY RD FALLS CHURCH VA 22041 US Tel:703 379 1777 Fax:703 379 6983 E-mall:CS@AIRFARE.COM

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